

**Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission**  
**Commission Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 18, 2006**  
**Room 460 Governor's Office Building-Jefferson City, MO**  
**[www.mmpec.ded.mo.gov](http://www.mmpec.ded.mo.gov)**

Members in Attendance: Chairman Dalton Wright, Vice Chairman Representative David Pearce, Senator Frank Barnitz, Loretta Charleston, Kent Thomas, Robert Welling and Representative Terry Witte  
10:30a.m.

Members Absent: Craig Borchelt and Senator Chris Koster

Guests in Attendance: Ernie Lee, Military Officers Association of America; Alan Stark, Missouri National Guard; Rachel Wheeler, Whiteman Air Force Base Liaison; Michael Nichols, Missouri Department of Economic Development; Krista Zurkamer, Missouri Department of Economic Development

Chairman Dalton Wright called the MMPEC October 18, 2006 meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Chairman Wright welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all in attendance for their support.

Chairman Dalton Wright introduced a new addition to the DED staff, Krista Zurkamer, who will be staff support for the MMPEC.

The board members, supporting staff and guests made introductions.

The minutes from the September 6, 2006 were introduced and reviewed. The corrections noted were as follows: On page 1 the meeting location will change from Room 470, Governor Office Building, Jefferson City to Boeing's Future Combat Systems, St. Louis. On page 2, paragraph 4, line 4, 8% will be changed to 9.5%.

Kent Thomas moved, Loretta Charleston seconded the motion to accept the September 6, 2006 minutes with said amendments. All approved, motion carried.

### **MMPEC Website**

Michael Nichols introduced to the commission all the corrections and additions DED has made to the MMPEC website to date. Mr. Nichols informed the commission of a newly created position within DED, Industry Specialist Military Defense/Homeland Security. Mr. Nichols also asked for additional items the commission would like to see on the website.

Discussion continued about the website and what additional information to post. The commission was in accord for much of this information.

*Robert Welling*

Robert Welling suggested the additions of Congressman Ike Skelton's Chief of Staff Robert Hagedorn and Whiteman AFB Liaison Rachel Wheeler to the MMPEC members' page.

*Vice Chairman Representative David Pearce*

Vice Chairman Representative David Pearce proposed the addition of the Education Task Force as a subcommittee allowing further data to be included.

*Kent Thomas*

Kent Thomas recommended the addition of a medium for commonly asked questions. Mr. Thomas also advised including frequent information essential to military personnel and their families. Mr. Thomas also encouraged a way to systematically connect two components within the military specialty. Mr. Thomas went on to state Boeing as an example of this misalignment of communication. Mr. Thomas also introduced the addition of pertinent legislative information to the MMPEC website.

*Senator Frank Barnitz*

Senator Frank Barnitz agreed with Mr. Thomas' proposal on pertinent legislation being posted on the website but he did add the significance of posting it after passing in the legislature.

*Loretta Charleston*

Loretta Charleston advised the addition of website links. Some of the links suggested were Fort Leonard Wood, Whiteman AFB, National Guard, National Reserve, Missouri School Board Associations, Missouri Veteran Associations and Missouri Veteran Commission. Mrs. Charleston commented she would add the MMPEC to her MOESGR military member briefings.

*Chairman Dalton Wright*

Chairman Dalton Wright stressed the importance of the MMPEC website and what a vital tool it will have. Chairman Wright stressed the website be fresh and instructive. Chairman Wright added the merit of marketing the website; our website address should be on everything in relation to the MMPEC. Some additional ways to promote the MMPEC website is through the media. The media not only may be used as an outlook for the MMPEC but the website may also note any and all stories relevant to our rationale.

*Alan Stark*

Alan Stark agreed with the commission about the lack of information out there for the public to access. Mr. Stark also added the importance of addressing the information in existence and its falsity. We should especially be interested in the information on Missouri going out to the public.

**2006 Annual MMPEC Report**

Chairman Dalton Wright began the discussion of the 2006 Annual MMPEC Report by reminding the commission of the December 31, 2006 deadline. Chairman Wright suggested reviewing the 2005 Annual Report to assist the commission in formulation of the 2006 Report.

Discussion continued about the 2006 Annual Report and its content. The consensus is as follows:

1. Pg. 1 Background- **Update Information**
2. Pg. 1 Membership-**Update Information** and the addition of the Education Task Force, Military Liaison and Congressman Skelton's Chief of Staff Robert Hagedorn.
3. Pg. 2 Meetings-**Update Information**
4. Pg. 2 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) Recommendations-**Delete**
5. Pg. 3 BRAC Consultant-**Continue Progress**
6. Pg. 4 2005 BRAC Local Efforts-**Delete**
7. Pg. 4 2006 Action Items
  - Economic Impact of Military Posts and Defense Related Industries in Missouri-**Continue Progress**
  - Business Development and Job Creation Opportunities
    - A: Appropriate Staffing by DED-**Accomplished**
    - B: Series of Meetings with Defense Industries-**Continue Progress**
    - C: Promote Missouri-**Accomplished and Continue Progress**
    - D: DED Prepare Analysis of Defense Related Contracts-**Continue Progress**
    - E: Investigate Tax Credit-**Delete**
    - F: Promote Job Training Assistance-**Tabled Until Next Meeting**
    - G: Assist Recruiting By State Guaranteed Interview-**Tabled Until Next Meeting**
    - H: Analyze the Opportunity for Economic Growth-**Tabled Until Next Meeting**
  - Military Quality of Life Issues
    - A: Appoint a Task Force-**Accomplished**, Education Task Force was created and developed the Tips brochure. Constitution Test Legislature
    - B: Recommend Joint Reciprocity Licenses-**Continue Progress**
    - C: Recommend Allowance of Waiving Penalties for Small Business-**Continue Progress**
    - D: Investigate Issues Related to Military Student Enrollment-**Continue Progress**
    - E: Review Other State Action on SCRA-**Delete**
    - F: Recommend Age Exemption for Military Students-**Continue Progress**
  - Ex-Military and Retired Military Initiatives
    - A: Promote "Troops to Teachers"-**Continue Progress**

- B: Recommend Additional Funding for Missouri State Veterans Cemeteries-**Accomplished and Continue Progress**
- C: Advocate Awareness of Education and Training Opportunities-**Continue Progress**
- Communication Between Missouri Military, MMPEC and State Agencies
  - A: Invite Military Liaison-**Continue Progress**
  - B: Office of Military Ombudsman-**Accomplished**
  - C: Recommend MMPEC Chairman an Ex-Officio Member of the Missouri Veterans Commission-**Continue Progress**
  - D: Governor Expand the Missouri Workforce Development Outreach to Active Duty and Their Families-**If Not Accomplished Continue Progress**
- Encroachment as a Negative to Expansion of Military Posts and Bases and Enhancement of Mission Capabilities for Military Posts and Bases Located Within the State of Missouri
  - A: Investigate Land Expansion Needs-**Continue Progress**
  - B: Feasibility of Discretionary Funds to Commanders-**Continue Progress**
  - C: Study and Formulate a Land Bank-**Continue Progress**
  - D: Investigate Protection of Military Needed Land-**Continue Progress**
- Ongoing Resources
  - A: Recommend Consultant/Advocate and Funding-**Continue Progress**
  - B: Request Sufficient Funding to Commission-**Accomplished**

## **Funding For Consultant**

### *Michael Nichols*

Michael Nichols introduced to the commission the two consulting firms with whom we have corresponded. The agencies include Hyjek & Fix, Inc. and the Turner & Pollard Consulting Firm.

Chairman Dalton Wright shared the general opinion that funding will be available due to the inevitable occurrence of BRAC. The commission has discussed in the past of a 40%, 40%, 10% and 10% split amongst DED, MDFB, Whiteman AFB and Fort Leonard Wood. The commission also has devised the approximation of the budget being \$250,000.00 for the consulting firm.

Some of the commission members have spoke with Hyjek & Fix, Inc. commenting on his insight into BRAC and its effects. Hyjek is also interested in the relationship between military defense and economic development.

Discussion continued about the commissions' best approach for the funding of the consultant.

*Senator Frank Barnitz*

Senator Frank Barnitz voiced his thoughts on setting a figure beforehand; he would prefer gathering all the necessary information and then establishing the funding requirements. Senator Barnitz added regardless of the national election the commission will still have support due to the pending concerns of BRAC. Senator Barnitz also added the possible funding assistance with the closing of the Missouri office in Washington, DC.

*Representative Terry Witte*

Representative Terry Witte was in accordance with Senator Barnitz and added the commission would have more detailed information to bring to DED, MDFB, Whiteman AFB and Fort Leonard Wood.

*Chairman Dalton Wright*

Chairman Dalton Wright suggested the four funding outlets would be in favor of the commissions' recommendation due to the success of other states BRAC resolutions due to having a consultant. Chairman Wright also voiced his opinion of having an assortment of consulting firms to understand the mission we will be undergoing.

Discussion continued with additional consulting firms the commission may want to engage being thrown out on the table. The commission also agreed the importance of involving the four funding outlets early. The commission also discussed how other states fund their BRAC preparations.

Chairman Dalton Wright called for a lunch break at 12:16 p.m.

MMPEC meeting resumed at 12:53 p.m.

**Education in the Military**

*Military Families Voting in Local School District Boards*

*Chairman Dalton Wright*

Chairman Dalton Wright and Senator Frank Barnitz met with Dr. Judene Blackburn to discuss some of the issues of military families in education. Chairman Wright preceded with a few of the recommendations formulated during their meeting. Some of the concerns discussed in relevance to military families voting and representation in local school district boards include the percentage ratio of military students to non military students opposed to funding aid, military school board official's premature departures, land tax arguments and the fiscal impact on local school boards. For additional insight Chairman Wright commented the military liaison on local school boards are appointed by the Garrison Command. Some of the military defenses have an ombudsman to sit in on the board meetings but they have no actuary power. Chairman Wright continued by saying the initial imperative action to date is getting the right to vote in school board elections for any military family member. Once we have accomplished this first barrier than we may concentrate on the board membership.

### Military Base Hearing on Education Issues

Chairman Dalton Wright opened the commission to discussion on the matter of conducting hearings on military bases addressing education issues.

#### *Rachel Wheeler*

Rachel Wheeler introduced a possible date to hold an Open Forum at Whiteman AFB, January 18, 2007. Mrs. Wheeler went on to invite the commission to the forum to be held in the Community Center. The forum will address not only education issues but the quality of life for military families in Missouri.

#### *Loretta Charleston*

Loretta Charleston suggested we hold a MMPEC meeting in conjunction with the Open Forum at Whiteman AFB. Mrs. Charleston also reminded the commission we do not want to forget about the additional military defense outlets located throughout Missouri.

#### *Vice Chairman Representative David Pearce*

Vice Chairman Representative David Pearce commented on the possibility of having a Power Point Presentation at the Open Forum in reference to the MMPEC which was assigned to Krista Zurkamer.

Discussion continued about conducting Open Forums across the state on education issues of the military. The commission was in agreement to hold a MMPEC meeting prior to the Whiteman AFB Open Forum and after attend the Forum by invitation.

### Letters to School Superintendents

This item was tabled for the next meeting until further information could be gathered.

### **Department of Revenue and Military CDL License**

#### *Michael Nichols*

Michael Nichols brought to the attention of the commission a comment we received by a military personnel in reference to commercial license registration in Missouri. In Missouri soldiers who are certified with the Army Commercial Drivers License are not valid. Department of Revenue is aware of this problem and is trying to resolve the issue. DOR does not have explicit statutory authority to waive the requirements for military license holders to obtain a Missouri CDL. This is an item DOR is considering putting in their legislative package.

### **Other Business and New Business**

#### *Robert Welling*

Robert Welling voiced his concerns to the commission with the state of Veteran Health Care. Mr. Welling encouraged the commission to support adequate health care and

prescription services for the Veterans. Mr. Welling will prepare a resolution for the next MMPEC Agenda on November 29, 2006.

*Representative Terry Witte*

Representative Terry Witte proposed for the next Agenda the commission address possible dates for the Fort Leonard Wood open forum with further information gathered in the meantime.

*Michael Nichols*

Michael Nichols presented to the commission a report published entitled "Defense Commissaries-Additional Small Business Opportunities Should Be Explored." The report discussed the involvement of small business products being sold at local MX and PX. A possible solution to this is to hold farmer markets on base.

*Krista Zurkamer*

Krista Zurkamer introduced to the commission a comment we received from W. Elmore about assistance to Reserve Component Members who are or were successfully self employed prior to activation.

Discussion continued about Mr. Elmore's comments and how the commission may assist him. The commission agreed there are some legislative tools set in place today to protect active members in the Reserve. Missouri offers job training centers throughout the state to assist business with training and the progression of their business. Some other possible outlets are the Department of Labor, Small Business Development Center, Chamber of Commerce and Veteran Ombudsman.

Chairman Dalton Wright reminded the commission, staff and guests of the next MMPEC on November 29, 2006 in Jefferson City in Room 470 of the Governors Office Building.

With no further business Chairman Dalton Wright adjourned the October 18, 2006 meeting at 2:02 p.m.



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Chairman Dalton Wright

11-29-2006

Date